

# Philippine-American Times

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In photo, **Vic G. Magpuri Jr** (Left), Editor-In-Chief of the Philippine-American Times received an award of recognition from **Congressman Bob Filner** of the 50th District of California. **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Congressman Filner was one of the originator helping us Filipinos specially those Airport Security Screeners (Read the story below). Let us help him to be re-elected on November 2002 election. Maraming Salamat Po.

## Congressman Bob Filner Says Legal Permanent Residents Should Be Eligible To Be Airport Security Screeners

Congressman Bob Filner today called on his colleagues in Congress to require airport security screeners to have the same standards and qualifications as the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. Filner is a co-sponsor of House Resolution 4058, the "Military Standards for Airport Security Screeners Act", which would make this change to federal law.

"If you can carry a gun to defend America overseas, you should be able to wave a scanning wand in our domestic airports," said Filner. "Many in our community – some who have lived here legally for decades – have lost their jobs. This injustice must be rectified!"

Hundreds of experienced baggage screeners -- many of Filipino descent -- have lost their jobs as airport security screeners, in spite of the fact that they are legal permanent residents of the United States. The bill that Filner supports would amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to require the INS to verify whether an applicant has an immigration status that would allow him to serve in the Armed Forces. If so, he would be allowed to be employed as an airport security screener.

"If Legal Permanent Residents can serve and die for this country in our Armed Forces, they should be able to serve as airport security screeners," said Filner.